

REMARKS

In the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 7 were amended to define that the conduction part of the conductor extends coplanar with the main portion of the conductor; and that the resilient arm of the conductor includes a first portion having an arc shape, a second portion extending substantially parallel with the main portion and a third portion bent for a certain angle. Claims 2 and 9 were amended in accordance with the amendments to claims 1 and 7. The cover page of the Official action stated that claims 3-6, 8, and 10-14 were withdrawn from consideration. However, it is respectfully noted that claims 4-6, 8, and 11-14 are generic or linking claims, and therefore, must be examined together with the elected claims. See, for example, the M.P.E.P. §809. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, and 11-14 are in the application for consideration by the examiner.

Since the Outstanding of action did not include an examination of generic or linking claims 4-6, 8, and 11-14, applicant respectfully request a new, non-final, Office action including an examination of these claims.

Claims 1, 2, 7, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 6,379,176 of Ohsawa *et al.* (Ohsawa). The Official action noted figure 7 of Ohsawa and identified a conductor comprising a main portion (21) and resilient arm (23) and a conduction part (22). Applicant respectfully submits that the presently claimed invention is patently distinguishable from the teachings of Ohsawa for at least the following reasons.

Claims 1 and 7 define, among other things, that the conduction part of the conductor extends coplanar with the main portion of the conductor, and that the resilient arm of the conductor includes a first portion having an arc shape, a second portion extending substantially parallel with the main portion, and a third portion bent at a certain angle. The teachings of Ohsawa do not contemplate or suggest this structure of applicant's claims. In particular the teachings of Ohsawa do not contemplate or suggest that terminal part (22), which the Official action equated to the presently claimed conduction part extends coplanar with the contact body (21), which the Official action equated to the presently claimed main portion. See, for example, figure 7 of Ohsawa. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify the conductor shown in figure 7 to that set forth in applicant's claims, because the teachings of Ohsawa require that the conductor shown in figure 7 fit within, for example, the device shown in figure 6 of Ohsawa.

Moreover, the teachings of Ohsawa do not contemplate or suggest the structure of the presently claimed resilient arm of the conductor, which includes a first portion having an arc shape, second portion extending substantially parallel with the main portion, and a third portion bent for a certain angle for a certain length, as required in claims 1 and 7.

For all these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the invention set forth in claims 1 and 7 and the claims that depend thereon including generic or linking claims 4-6, 8, and 11-14 are patently distinguishable from

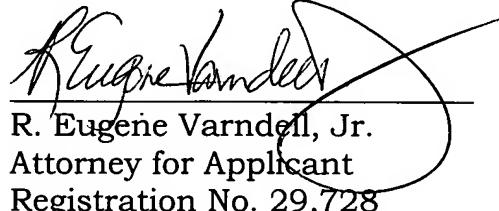
the teachings of Ohsawa. Therefore, a formal allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Since it is believed that generic claims 1 and 7 are patentable, applicant respectfully requests a rejoinder of all the restricted claims, including claims 3 and 10 together with the elected claims. In this connection, it is respectfully noted that amended claims 1 and 7 encompass the subject matter set forth in non-elected species of figure 7. For all these reasons, a formal allowance of claims 1-14 is respectfully requested.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Official action mailed August 6, 2004. While it is believed that the present response places the application in condition for allowance, should the examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below listed number to resolved any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which may become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
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